Safeguards against air crashes

†819. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of air crashes occured during the last two years;

(b) the reasons for those air crashes; and

(c) the guidelines issued by Government to prevent such air crashes in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) During the last two years there were 15 accidents involving Indian Civil registered aircraft.

(b) the major reasons for these accidents are decision error of the pilots, poor crew co-ordination, mechanical/technical problems, poor maintenance, lack of experience and weather disturbances.

(c) The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) issues specific Air Safety Circulars addressing the cause/s of crash and implement the recommendations in each of the investigation reports of air crashes to prevent recurrence in future. DGCA also ensures, on a continuous basis, strict compliance of safety norms by all air operators, including private operators by way of safety audits. Besides, spot checks on maintenance activities are also carried out by the DGCA. DGCA also keeps updating the Civil Aviation Requirements/Circulars to strengthen aviation safety aspect. To provide better airworthiness schedule for enhancement of air safety aspect, Government is running two international training programme for the officials of DGCA and airlines *viz.* Co-operative Development of Operational Safety and Continuing Airworthiness Programme (COSCAP) and European Union-India Training Programme.

Sale of Centaur Hotel

820. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that AAI has declared the sale of Centaur to Sahara as illegal as Batra Hospitality had neither intimated nor sought its permission;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government had persuaded the AAI to lease out the land to Batra Hospital for 30 years at a low rent; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has not declared sale of Centaur Hotel by Batra Hospitality to Sahara Hospitality as illegal.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. AAI had signed an Agreement with M/s. Hotel Corporation of India (HCI) for lease of land for 29 years with effect from 1.4.2002. Thereafter, HCI in turn on disinvestment of its property, transferred the lease to M/s. Batra Hospitality on the same terms and conditions in terms of Lease Agreement AAI & HCI.

Exemption of Parking Fee

†821. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a case is pending with AAI regarding the land of available hangers/buildings etc. for usage/in possession of his Ministry at Amousi airport, Lucknow having been provided to the said department on token licence fee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government has requested to exempt the charges of landing, parking and R.N.F.C. to their aeroplane at the said airport; and

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Central Government thereupon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) In Amousi Airport, Lucknow, land measuring 36, 131.30 Sq. mtrs. is in possession of Department of Civil Aviation, Government of Uttar Pradesh which includes buildings, two hangers and some open space. Bills at a token licence fee of Re. 1/- per sq. mtr. per annum have been raised by Airports Authority of India with effect from April 2000 to March 2005 but payments are yet to be made by Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) and (d) No such request has been received by Airports Authority of India from the State Government so far.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.